Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NAIROB 05876 120828Z ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PRS-01 /045 W

-----122153Z 047265 /70

R 111407Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8138
INFO DIA WASHDC
COMIDEASTFOR
USS LASALLE
USS TRIPPE
USCINCEUR

CONFIDENTIAL NAIROBI 5876

USCINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PINR, MILI, KE

SUBJECT: STATUS OF KENYA NAVY COMMANDER

1. ON MAY 6 MAJOR SIMON MBILU, DEPUTY COMMANDER, KENYA NAVY WAS OFFICIALLY APPOINTED ACTING NAVY COMMANDER FOR INDEFINITE PERIOD. MBILU AND OTHER SENIOR KENYA NAVY AND MINISTRY OF DEFENCE PERSONNEL HAVE CONFIRMED THAT ERSTWHILE NAVY COMMANDER LT. COL. JAMES KIMARO WAS REMOVED FROM COMMAND DUE TO DRINKING PROBLEM, WHICH HAD GROWN MORE SERIOUS RECENTLY. MBILU HAS TAKEN ON VIRTUALLY ALL ATTRIBUTES OF NAVY COMMANDER, INCLUDING PLACE IN KENYAN CABINET. THIS WAS NOT CASE IN PREVIOUS INSTANCES WHEN MBILU FILLED IN FOR KIMARO TEMPORARILY. HE HAS NOW MOVED INTO KIMARO'S OFFICE AT KENYA NAVY HEADQUARTERS. WHETHER KIMARO EVENTUALLY RETURNS OR NOT DEPENDS ON THERE BEING IMPROVEMENT IN HIS CONDITION. FOR TIME BEING HE HAS LEFT MOMBASA AND IS BELIEVED TO BE UNDERGOING TREATMENT AT A MEDICAL FACILITY. MAJOR MBILU DOES NOT CONFIDENTIAL

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KNOW KIMARO'S WHEREABOUTS.

2. MAJOR MBILU IS OF THE KAMBA TRIBE, WHICH IS PARTICULARLY WELL REPRESENTED IN THE KENYAN ARMY OFFICER CORPS. HE IS APPROXIMATELY 35 YEARS OLD. EMBOFFS WHO HAVE DEALT WITH HIM HAVE A HIGH REGARD FOR HIS ABILITY. HE IS A GENUINE AND CONSPICUOUS

ADMIRER	OF THE U.S.	AND THE U.S	S. NAVY IN I	PARTICULAR.
BROWN				

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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Concepts: NAVAL FORCES, BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS

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Subject: STATUS OF KENYA NAVY COMMANDER

TAGS: PINT, PINR, MILI, KE, (MBILU, SIMON), (KIMARO, JAMES)

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